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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/024,503	12/17/2001	Jeffrey K. Reinemann	10559-540001/P12560	4314
20985	7590	12/22/2005	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON, PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			FISCHETTI, JOSEPH A	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				3627

DATE MAILED: 12/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/024,503	REINEMANN, JEFFREY K.	
	Examiner Joseph A. Fischetti	Art Unit 3627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1 applicant recites that a local resource is released to the remote processor if "an amount of resources consumed by the remote processor are below the determined limit". The examiner reads this to mean that the remote processor is not at full capacity and it is only then that a local resource is release to it. It would seem the opposite to be true. That when the remote processor is at capacity, then it is helped by the local resource released to it by the host.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blumenau in view of Pian et al.

Blumenau et al. disclose a method of managing resources among networked processors 22,23,21,20 that include a host processor 22,23 and a remote processor 21.

Blumenau et al. disclose a host activity monitoring facility 62 which reads on collecting accounting information at each of the networked processors to monitor utilization of the resources; releasing a local resource (local resource is read as the switch flow through the host ports) controlled by the host processor to the remote processor (remote processor is read as the switch control 55 which controls the switch functions of the hosts 22'-25'), col. 7 lines 61,62 disclose monitoring frequencies of the host to balance usage, the frequencies being a fixed range is read as a predetermined upper threshold and thus reads on "the utilization of the local resource maintained within a pre-determined upper threshold configured by an authorized user"; and col. 7 line 59 discloses a dynamic balancing facility which computes a new list of host controls on the switches based upon, inter alia, frequency threshold, which reduces the availability of the local resource to the remote processor by the host processor. However, Blumenau does not appear to use an accounting manager which monitors the resources at the networked processor and releases resources based on collected accounting data nor do they disclose determining an upper limit of resource consumption for a remote processor. Pian et al. disclose a centralized accounting manager 122 which collects queue times from localized resources to collect accounting information (col. 8 lines 52 et seq.) at a networked processors 114 and further discloses determining an upper limit resource consumption e.g., an "upper limit is placed on the local ready task entry queue 146". It would be obvious to modify the method of Blumenau to include a centralized manager such as device 122 in Pian et al. and to determine an upper limit consumption for a remote processor in Blumenau et al. as a function of releasing the local resource,

the motivation being the increased ability to forecast downstream availability of a resource.

Re claims 2,8: see, Blumenau col. 7 lines 63 et seq. a specified priority level is assigned to each of the hosts thereby answering the limitation of negotiating because prioritization inherently requires negotiations; the loop ports of the hosts 24,25 are read as an amount of the local resource and the switch 40 is read as an amount of a remote resource; and since the activity e.g. releasing into service of the switch is proportional to that of the loop ports, there is read an exchange therebetween.

Re claim 3, 5: Since the utilization of one host loop port in Blumenau will be exclusive of another's, this occurrence is read as substantially different in time.

Re claim 4, 6: the another resource is read as the balancing facility 63 of the computer in Blumenau which is read as the centralized location.

Re claim 9: the user defined condition is read as the access of hosts to storage in Blumenau.

Re claim 7: col. lines 13 et seq. discuss trying a port to determine if it is busy and if so then rerouting data until the first port is freed which is read as form of credit which is redeemed once the port frees up in Blumenau.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Joseph A. Fischetti at telephone number 571 272 6780.



JOSEPH A. FISCHETTI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Joseph A. Fischetti
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3627